

SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

104th Congress
1st Session

Vote No. 474

September 29, 1995, 10:00 a.m.
Page S-14585 Temp. Record

COMMERCE-JUSTICE-STATE APPROPRIATIONS/Violence Against Women Act

SUBJECT: Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1996 . . . H.R. 2076. Biden amendment No. 2815.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 99-0

SYNOPSIS: As reported, H.R. 2076, the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies appropriations bill for fiscal year 1996, will provide a total of \$26.525 billion in new budget authority, which is 1 percent less than provided for fiscal year (FY) 1995, and which is \$4.634 billion less than the Administration requested. The Justice Department and the Judiciary will receive substantial increases in funding, and the Commerce Department, the State Department, and related agencies will receive substantial reductions in funding.

The Biden amendment would increase the amount appropriated to fund the programs of the Violence Against Women Act to \$175 million (the bill will provide \$100 million, which is three times the amount provided in fiscal year 1995; the maximum amount authorized is \$176.7 million).

NOTE: No offsets were necessary for the amendment because prior to the offering of the amendment the Appropriations Committee increased the 602(b) budget authority (BA) for this bill by \$500 million and increased the outlay figure by \$350 million. The \$500 million was provided from BA that the Appropriations Committee had held in reserve; the outlay increase was achieved by decreasing the outlay allocation for the Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill. That bill had already passed the Senate with higher spending levels than the House-passed bill. Rather than waiting for a conference committee to compromise and arrive at a lower outlay level than provided in the Senate-passed bill, the Appropriations Committee cut that bill's 602(b) allocation. The Biden amendment used part of the increase in budget authority and outlays.

Those favoring the amendment contended:

We are confident that the Biden amendment will have enthusiastic bipartisan support. As reported, this bill will triple funding

(See other side)

YEAS (99)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (1)	
Republican (54 or 100%)		Democrats (45 or 100%)		Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (1)
Abraham	Hutchison	Akaka	Inouye				Glenn ²
Ashcroft	Inhofe	Baucus	Johnston				
Bennett	Jeffords	Biden	Kennedy				
Bond	Kassebaum	Bingaman	Kerrey				
Brown	Kempthorne	Boxer	Kerry				
Burns	Kyl	Bradley	Kohl				
Campbell	Lott	Breaux	Lautenberg				
Chafee	Lugar	Bryan	Leahy				
Coats	Mack	Bumpers	Levin				
Cochran	McCain	Byrd	Lieberman				
Cohen	McConnell	Conrad	Mikulski				
Coverdell	Murkowski	Daschle	Moseley-Braun				
Craig	Nickles	Dodd	Moynihan				
D'Amato	Packwood	Dorgan	Murray				
DeWine	Pressler	Exon	Nunn				
Dole	Roth	Feingold	Pell				
Domenici	Santorum	Feinstein	Pryor				
Faircloth	Shelby	Ford	Reid				
Frist	Simpson	Graham	Robb				
Gorton	Smith	Harkin	Rockefeller				
Gramm	Snowe	Heflin	Sarbanes				
Grams	Specter	Hollings	Simon				
Grassley	Stevens		Wellstone				
Gregg	Thomas						
Hatch	Thompson						
Hatfield	Thurmond						
Helms	Warner						

EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

for the programs of the Violence Against Women Act. Unfortunately, given funding restraints, that was the maximum amount that could be provided, even though the authorization for that Act allowed for \$75 million more in spending. Now, though, due to increases in the budget authority and outlays allocated for this bill, it is possible to provide full funding. Senators are aware of the statistics that prove the urgent need for this funding: every 18 seconds, a woman is beaten by her spouse, boyfriend, or other intimate acquaintance; every 5 minutes a woman is raped; nearly two out of three female victims know their attackers; and as many as 35 percent of all women who visit emergency treatment rooms are there because of family violence. The No. 1 threat to the health of America's women is violent attacks by men. For too long our country has accepted the abuse of women. Attitudes need to change, women need to be given safe havens, and aggressors need to be punished severely. We are very pleased that even in these tight budgetary times it has been possible to fund fully the Violence Against Women Act. We urge Senators to join us in approving this amendment.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.